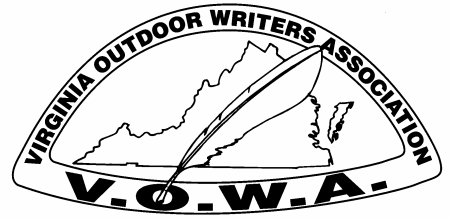


Membership Application

Send to:

Marika Byrd, CPS
VOWA Secretary/Treasurer
9354 Castle York Court, Unit #2001
Glen Allen, VA 23060-3719
Email: oriole@vcu.org



Class of Membership (Check One)

DATE: _____

- Active Member (\$20 dues) Student (\$10 dues) Apprentice (\$20 dues)
 Sponsor/Supporter (\$50 dues) Corporate (\$100 dues)

Individual or Corporate Name & Contact: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ Other: _____

Email Address: _____

Explain how you qualify for membership according to the requirements for the class checked above:

Credits from the past three years including awards:

I certify that the above information is accurate and that I subscribe to the principles, purposes and policies of the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association: _____

(Applicant/Contact Signature)

I recommend and sponsor the applicant for membership in the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association: _____

(Sponsoring Member)

See the following for the specific requirements for membership

Constitution and By-laws of the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

ARTICLE I. Name

Section 1.

The name of this corporation shall be the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc. (VOWA Inc.).

ARTICLE II. Declaration of Principles

Section 1.

We, who inform through the various media on the out-of-doors and its enjoyment, shall be known as the Virginia Outdoor Writers Association, Inc.

Through this corporate association we strive to improve ourselves in our craft, and to increase our knowledge and understanding of the outdoors.

We pledge our support to the conservation of natural resources and to the best precepts for the consumption and recreational uses of these resources.

Above all, we pledge ourselves to maintain the highest ethical standards in the exercise of our craft.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Section 1. *Active Member*

An Active Member shall be a person who supports the principles of the organization by writing or editing for magazines, newspapers, and other publications, including books; or by photography, illustration, television and radio broadcasting, Internet web pages, lecturing, public relations, promotion, or other written, verbal, or visual media.

To be considered for *Active* membership, a potential member shall, during the course of a year, produce and be paid for one of the following: 4 magazine articles, 12 newspaper columns and/or articles, 10 published photographs, 6 wildlife illustrations or cartoons, 12 radio/television programs, the author of one outdoor book every 5 years, produce or film one documentary film every 3 years, 6 lectures, a monthly web-page on the Internet, full-time information/public relations employee of a non-profit agency, or full time employment as an outdoor agency information official. (Combinations of the above are also acceptable.)

Section 2. *Associate or Apprentice Member*

An Associate or Apprentice Membership shall be a person who supports the principles of the organization by writing or editing for magazines, newspapers, and other publications, including books; or by photography, illustration, television, and radio broadcasting, Internet web pages, lecturing, public relations, promotions, or other written, verbal, or visual material. This membership requires that an applicant fulfill one half of the requirements for Active Membership. (Amendment passed March 31, 2004).

Section 3. *Student Membership*

Student Membership requires that an applicant be enrolled in an institution of higher learning, pursuing a course of study related to the outdoors and communications. A student in Senior High School pursuing such a study is also eligible.

Section 4. *Corporate Member*

A Corporate Member shall be an organization that subscribes to the principles of this organization and produces products or services that are sold for profit, of which Active members approve. Corporate Members are not entitled to hold office or vote, but may participate in meetings, outings, etc. The Board must approve all corporate memberships.

Section 5. *Sponsor Member*

A Sponsor Member shall be an organization (Association, League, Federation, Society, etc.) that subscribes to all the principals of this organization and is involved in the protection and conservation of our natural resources, support of those outdoor activities and opportunities they provide and outdoor ethics. Sponsor Members are not

entitled to hold office or vote, but may participate in meetings, outings etc. The Board must approve all sponsor members.

Section 6. *Honorary and Life Members*

Honorary and Life Members may be elected by a quorum at the Annual Meeting. Such memberships constitute the corporation's gesture of respect or recognition of outstanding achievement or years of dedicated service to conservation and outdoor ethics. An Honorary Member cannot be an Active Member. A Life Member is one who, having been a former Active Member for five years or more, leaves active status because of illness, retirement, or moving away from the area. Neither Life nor Honorary Members are entitled to hold office or vote. Dues are waived.

Section 7. *Senior Non-Active Member*

Senior Non-Active Membership is an alternative form of membership for persons who have been or could have qualified to be an Active Member. They may elect to be classified as a "Senior Non-Active Member." This category was created for persons who are in their retiring or less active writing years. To qualify, the person must have fulfilled all the membership qualifications for at least ten years.

This person may hold office and vote, and will be assessed the annual dues required of Active Members, but will not be required to maintain the productivity of publishing required of Active Members. This official status is conferred only after the membership committee has reviewed and approved a letter-of-intent from the requesting person.

Section 8. *Special Circumstances*

The Membership Committee shall have the authority as needed to present applicants with special circumstances to the board for membership consideration.